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The Eastern Poultryman.

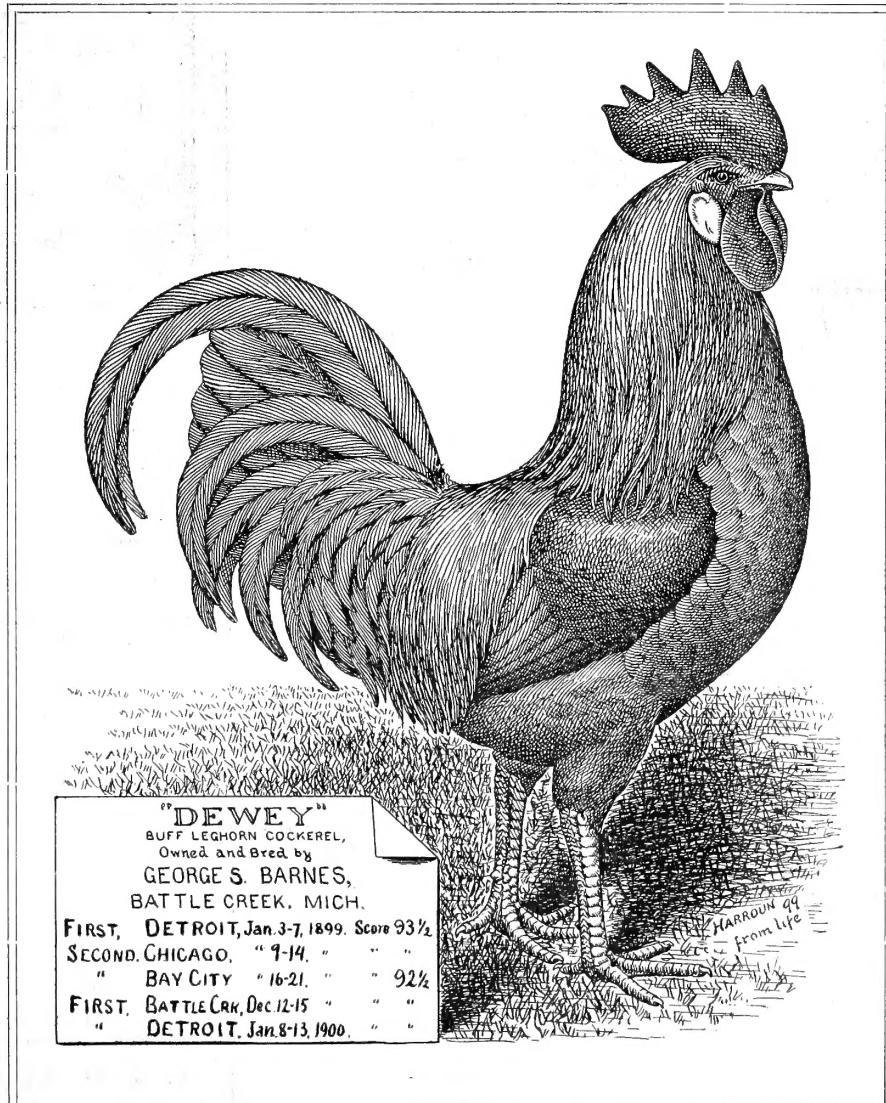
ESTABLISHED 1899 AS THE POULTRYMAN AND POMOLOGIST.

DEVOTED TO PRACTICAL POULTRY CULTURE.

Vol. 3.

Freeport, Maine, November, 1901.

No. 3.



GOLDEN BUFF ROCKS. STANDARD BLUE BARRED ROCKS.

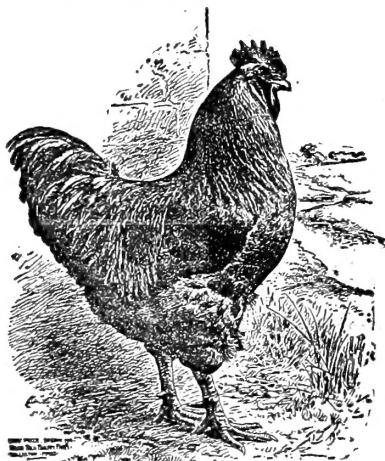
I have three yards of **Buff Rocks** mated for utility as well as standard points. They are early layers of rich brown eggs, and make the finest of poultry. I have won the leading premiums each year at the leading shows in the four years that I have bred them. **MY BARRED ROCKS** are line bred and well known all over the country as I have been breeding this variety for more than 25 years. With my long experience in mating, they breed true to feather and all other Standard points. As to utility, I have always saved my earliest laying pullets for breeding, so that it is as common for them to lay at four to five months, as it was a few years ago at seven to eight months of age. As to fine eggs, I won at the Maine Dairy Conference at Augusta, in December, the 1st and 2d prizes for Heaviest Dozen; also 1st and 2d for the **Best Brown Eggs**, size, shape and color considered.

I have three pens of Barred Rocks mated for this year's breeding. Fresh blood has been added to my flock, so that my old customers can still use my stock to mate with theirs. What is good for me is good for them.

Choice Stock Always For Sale.

I. V. MCKENNEY, West Auburn, Maine.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.



Winner of 1st, and special, Fall River, Mass.
Winner of 1st, Boston, Mass., 1901.
Winner of 1st, New York, N. Y., 1901.

We have 1000 Chicks bred from
Our Stock for Sale.

WE WON 1900.

Nine 1st, Concord, N. H., 1900.
Eight 1st, Brockton, 1900.
Two 1st, Fall River, 1900.
Six 1st, Malden, 1900.
142 prizes, Philadelphia (including nine 1st)

1901.

We won 48 prizes, Boston, 1901 (including four 1st).

We won seven 1st and five 2d prizes, New York, 1901.

House Rock Poultry Farm,
P. O. BOX 6, WOLLASTON MASS.

Yards and Farm, East Weymouth, Mass

SHOWS THE HEN THAT LAID THE EGG.

Ideal
Trap Nests are
Reliable and
Convenient.



Ideal
Trap Nests are
Simple and
Inexpensive.

The Trap Nest that you have been waiting for.

Circulars free. Frank O. Wellcome, Box Yarmouth, Me. *Satisfaction guaranteed.*

GOLDEN WYANDOTTES
The Beauty Breed. Line bred, 10 years.
Always winners.

PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTES
Best Western strain.

All stock sold strictly on approval. Eggs, \$2.00 per 15, \$6.00 per 100.

J. W. MORSE, Box 74, EPPING, N. H.

COLUMBIA WYANDOTTES
Direct from the originators.

DARK BRAHMAS
Extra fine. 30 years experience breeding
show birds.

"USE IS THE JUDGE"

PAY FOR WHAT YOU GET



GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR

TRADE MARK

WHITE WYANDOTTES
LIGHT BRAHMAS
EGGS \$1.00 for 15 \$5.00 for 100

Charles Cushman
239 Wind Avenue
Auburn, Maine, U.S.A.
Catalogue on Application

GREEN CUT CLOVER.

1-8 inch lengths. No long stems. \$1.50 per 100 lbs.; \$2.60 per 200; \$6.50 per 500. Clover meal 30 cts. per pound higher. Discounts on large orders. Formula, Niagara Poultry Food, \$1.00.

1000 HEAD OF CHOICE BREEDERS.

Pure White Wyandottes, Mammoth Pekin Ducks, Red Belts-in Hares, \$1.50 each. R. I. Red Cockerels, \$2.00 each. We won 7 regular and 2 special prizes on our stock at Pan American Poultry Show. Poultry supplies. Circulars free.

W. R. CURTISS & CO.,
Niagara Farm, RANSOMVILLE, N. Y.
BOX 9.

White Wyandottes and Barred P. Rocks . . .

Eggs 75c. per Setting. \$4.00 per 100.

We are breeders of "Mack" W. Wyandottes and "Rudd" P. Rocks, both layers of **Dark Brown Eggs**. Bred for business and utility. This price is for introduction. Orders booked now for future delivery.

Dealers as well in **Poultry Supplies**. Belle Brand Oyster Shells, 45c. per bag, \$7.00 per ton. White Flint Grit, 35c. per 100 at factory. Special prices of Cypher's Incubators, Champion Brooders and Wilson Bone Cutters. Let us quote you on anything wanted in supplies. Our expenses are low; we give you the benefit.

JOHNSON BROTHERS, Woodfords, Me.
Farm on Riverton Road.

BARRED ROCKS :-

— WHITE WYANDOTTES

MAINE'S FINEST.

Do you want to know more about them?

Write to *

E. E. PEACOCK,

KENT'S HILL, ME.

STOCK FOR SALE.

To Advertisers

If you have not given our columns a trial, you have missed a good thing. THE EASTERN POULTRYMAN is paying those who patronized it in its infancy, and they are staying with us with new and larger contracts. We are ready to serve you as well. Send us your order early and secure a good position.

Latest Edition,

AMERICAN STANDARD OF PERFECTION,

And a Year's Subscription to this Paper, \$1.00.

The Eastern Poultryman.

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Vol. 3.

Freeport, Maine, November, 1901.

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Successes and Failures in Poultry Keeping.

(Written for the Eastern Poultryman.)

It was a beautiful summer day when I made my long-promised visit to Mr. B. An hour's drive over a rough hilly road brought me to his place,—what had been an old worn-out New Hampshire farm. His father and grandfather before him had wrung a hard living from the poor rocky soil, but his father gave up the working of the farm to B. five years ago, and B. determined to try poultry, and by hard work and good hard, common sense is making a splendid success.

The first thing to attract my attention as I drove into his dooryard was his daughter, a girl of some seven summers, feeding a flock of 50 R. I. Red chickens which she informed me with very evident pride were her very own. Papa gave them to her if she would feed and water them, and while I was trying to induce her to tell me what she intended doing with them when they grew to be full fledged hens and crows, her father came out and joined us. After shaking hands he told me that he gave this flock of R. I. Red chicks to Alice to please her and that he believed the money they brought her being the first money she had ever earned would always remain a pleasant memory of her childhood home, besides teaching her to love feathered pets, and looking at her eager face and noting the pride and love she had for her chickens, I certainly thought it a good plan.

B. informed me that he was setting out fruit trees and intended making fruit a part of his business, believing that fruit and poultry would go well together and that the hens would benefit the fruit and that the hens would eat windfalls, worms and bugs and be benefitted by them. I told him I knew by experience that he was right about that, and that I myself had forty Abundance Plums standing in my hen yards which bore a crop every year and had for six years, never showing signs of blackknot or insect and besides that, they made splendid shade. B. showed me where he had set some two thousand apple, pear and peach trees. "I believe" said he, "that the day for general farming is gone by in New England. The great west with its virgin soil and freedom from rocks can beat us on general crops and New England farmers must in future confine themselves to some specialty like poultry and fruit which will go together or milk and small fruits which will go together."

B. started in the poultry business in the spring of 1898 with Silver Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks, two pens consisting of 10 pullets and a cockerel of each breed, making 40 pullets and 4 cockerels. He built one hen house 50 feet long and 20 feet wide. Today he has 10 of these houses all uniform in size, besides an old barn 100 feet by 25 feet and has six hundred old stock and about three thousand chickens of all ages, besides having sold one thousand

broilers, and from a young greenhorn in the business in the spring of 1898 is today an expert and can clear one thousand dollars per year over all expenses, so he told me. He confines himself to the practical part of the business and although he raises nothing but Silver Wyandottes, Barred Plymouth Rocks and R. I. Reds, he does so because he believes thoroughbreds better every way than common fowls. He told me that he had added the R. I. Reds to please his little girl, who took a fancy to them, and he considered them her's, and that he should keep just as many of them as she could take care of and no more, giving her all she could make on them, he feeding or furnishing feed for them; and I venture here to remark that I think that child will grow up a firm friend of the R. I. Red. While she lives she will have a true champion. Breeds may come and go but she will always remember her R. I. Reds.

B. has his hen houses all numbered so that he can the better handle his stock. He is assisted by his father, an old man of 70, and wife, and although the farm contains 100 acres he keeps nothing but one horse, one cow and two hogs on the place, selling the surplus hay. He devotes his whole time to poultry, and when I asked him if his farm would not run down he informed me that it was improving every year and that he would rather have hen manure to bring up worn out land than any other manure, first plowing the ground, then harrowing the hen manure in with a good wheel harrow. He showed me about two tons of fine clover hay which he said he had raised on ground treated in this way and which he intended feeding to his hens this winter. I asked him if he steamed it and he informed me that he put it through the hay cutter and fed it and that the hens would eat it up clean if not fed too much. Said he, "give them clover for a noon feed and you would be surprised to see the amount they will make way with." He also informed me that it increased the egg yield.

We visited house No. 1, and inside it looked white and clean, no clutter left around. The walls, roosts and nests were whitewashed, everything white, pure and sweet, showing care. He informed me that he whitewashed three times per year; in June, July and November, using salt in white wash, two table spoonfuls to a 10 quart pail. He fed H. O. Poultry Food, corn, apples, cabbages and beets and his breeding stock had green food from as soon as the ground became bare in the spring until the coming of snow. This he accomplished by using two yards for each pen sowing one in October with winter rye and the other with oats in the spring, and as the yards were very large this he could do. He sowed the grain on top of the ground and then harrowed it in with a horse and harrow, going over it twice. His yards were set to apple and pear trees. He had run a chicken wire fence, fencing off his chickens so that fowls and chicks could not run together, and his chickens

were separated by wire fencing according to size and age, and fowls and chickens were a bright, clean lot, industrious and contented. He used earthen dishes for water, large ones for large chicks and fowls, shallow ones for small chicks. They were set in the shade and filled morning, noon, and about four o'clock in the afternoon. The chicks when first hatched are fed grit and rolled oats and H. O. Food, and sometimes stale bread. He uses Cyphers and Star Incubators, Peep of Day, Old Homestead and Cyphers Brooders, using the one hundred chick capacity brooders but never putting over 50 chicks in a brooder for fear of crowding. He has had some experience with bowel trouble with the small chicks but had found a remedy in the common hardrock. Steep the leaves and add a tablespoonful of the tea to the drinking water. If taken when the first looseness appears it will cure. "By the way" said he, did you ever notice chicks running with hens hardly ever have the diarrhoea? I told him that I had noticed it and that I thought brooder chicks suffered from this trouble more than chicks running with hens because the hen knows her business and the man who runs the brooder did not; that most any person of ordinary intelligence could make the incubator hatch good fresh fertile eggs, but it required patience to learn to run brooders in a climate so changeable as New England. While we were talking, his father joined us and I asked the old gentleman what he thought of his son's way of farming. "Well," said he, "when I was young we never thought of making a living on poultry; we kept hens, a few common ones, but we did not expect to get eggs from them in winter, or at least not many, and in summer we let them shift for themselves and lay around on the hay. Sometimes the women folks would feed them but we only kept a few and expected them to hunt their living from spring to snowfall, but my son here made more clean cash last year on his poultry than I ever made on the old farm. I guess people must be using more eggs and poultry now." I told him that was true; that our large summer hotels and bakers and others all used an immense quantity of eggs and that the poultry industry had now become one of the most important branches of agriculture. The old gentleman seemed much surprised, but admitted that his son had made it pay, and then he asked me if I did not suppose that the Barred Plymouth Rock and the old Rocky Mountain were the same breed, the Rock being really an improved Rocky Mountain. I told him that the American Dominique I believed to be descended from the old Rocky Mountain and had always thought so.

I went through B.'s. hen houses and he explained to me his methods carefully, not a vestige of droppings was to be seen and I found he was as careful cleaning out his houses as an owner of fine horses or cattle would be of his stable. All droppings were wheeled to an old shed and put in boxes or barrels and kept for

use on his farm, never selling any as he believed it poor economy."

"I work" said he, "about 10 hours a day but not as hard as my father worked before me on this old farm, and if he got a living and paid taxes he thought he was doing well, while I can clear one thousand dollars and have strong hopes of doing even better than that, and the farm is improving, fruit trees are growing, and I propose building a brooder house and putting in a wind mill and bring water into house, barn and hen houses, which will save much labor, and to increase my breeding and laying stock to one thousand fowls and to raise about five thousand chicks per year, even if I have to hire a man the year round. So far I have only hired during haying, planting and harvesting. I sell all my poultry and eggs here at my door,—the poultry alive. I do not get as much as I would perhaps to market my eggs or dress the poultry but it saves time and bother, to say nothing of hiring extra help and cartage to market.

I select the very finest of my females and purchase 15 cockerels each year, paying about \$37.50 for them. I put 7 females with each male. I never purchase old birds and I always go and select them, and look more to shape and size and color of skin than to fancy points. These 105 females lay all the eggs I set. I never keep males with the laying hens, believing they lay just as well without them. I have set this year about one acre to cabbages and have planted about one acre to carrots and beets, and most of these I shall feed to my hens and cow. I intend they shall have clover or green food every day during the winter. I commence getting out chicks in January and the chickens eat lots of clover and cabbages and it does not hurt them in the least. I use the old barn in winter for chickens, setting my brooders in there."

Upon looking into the old barn I found he had put twenty large windows in it and that it was divided into twenty small pens by chick wire netting and that he could set up twenty brooders in it. This would give him a good chance to raise from one thousand to fifteen hundred chickens during the winter. It had no means of heating only the heat furnished by the brooder lamps. I saw two fine Angora cats in the barn and he told me he kept them there as a protection against rats and that they would not touch chickens, and that he sold \$12.00 worth of kittens from them, and that he had two fine fox hounds, male and female, which he kept for watch dogs and to hunt foxes and that he sold \$60.00 worth of puppies from them, which after deducting \$7.00 for license, left \$53.00 to pay for feed. Hawks he told me bothered him some, but a good shot gun had made them shy. It was nearly dark when I started home, after spending one of the most pleasant visits of my life.

Now here is a young man who would be plodding along in his father's footsteps, wringing a reluctant living from this rocky hill farm or he would be compelled to leave his aged father and the old home and go to some city, and the old home would soon run down and decrease in value while he would work in shop, store or factory for less money than he is earning in his old home, but by his love for poultry, good common sense and willingness to work and learn, his father can spend his declining years in the old home he loves so well, and the son can bring up his children free from the temptations of city or factory

village until they reach years of understanding. This is but one of the instances I have met of men who make a living from poultry. Success is not always attained to be sure, but there are causes for every failure which if taken in time would prevent it.

J. W. MORSE.

Full of Business.

(Written for the Eastern Poultryman.)

"Us Boys," Ernest 14, Roy 12, Ralph 10, sons of Mr. Edwin Smith, of Kennebunkport, who with his brother Stephen have one of the finest and most productive farms of this section, are engaged in the poultry business for profit, and smarter youngsters or more devoted "hen cranks" it has never been my pleasure to meet.

These boys have been very successful with their poultry. The whole responsibility of feeding, watering, etc., was left to them and it was not shirked. Thirty thoroughbred White Rock pullets kept in a warm house (donated by their father) laid in 1900, 3,194 eggs, which were sold for \$55.19, the feed costing \$24.61, leaving a balance of \$31.58, a little over \$10 for each boy as the results of work with this small flock, in odd moments. Two hens were killed in the year. The record reads:—"killed one hen with bad eye," "killed one hen with don't know what." These youngsters have sold this summer (1901) their flock of White Rocks and this fall will start with thoroughbred Buff Leghorns and R. I. Reds. There are many boys living on our farms, ideal places for poultry, whose fathers would gladly help them to a start. Now, boys wake up, be encouraged by the Junior Smith Bros' good work and try yourself for some of the profits in poultry.

HARRY C. NUNAN.

The Rose Comb Brown Leghorns.

Of the many kinds of chickens, one of the most widely known is the Leghorn. Of the three colors, brown, white and black, the browns are perhaps the most popular. Of the two varieties of brown Leghorns, the one more nearly approaching the ideal fowl is the rose comb.

I am an admirer of all kinds of Leghorns, and have had considerable experience with both kinds of combs. I attend the poultry shows, and I know that the single combs outnumber the rose combs ten, twenty, often fifty to one. I read the awards of the judges, and I find that the single combs usually outclass the rose combs. I look over the list of prominent breeders of Leghorns, and I find that the greater number advertise single combs exclusively. I ride through the country and find Leghorns everywhere, but seldom a rose comb brown. Why then, are the rose comb browns so far in the background, and are there any good reasons for believing that they will come to the front? For a long while, the popular belief seemed to be that a Leghorn must have a large, straight comb; but experience has proved that such is not the case.

My experience with Leghorns has been in the South and I am fully convinced that the rose combs have special claims almost anywhere in the United States. Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, the Carolinas, in fact, most of the southern states, are liable at any

time to have cold snaps that are of sufficient severity to freeze a chicken's comb. Single comb hens, even with reasonable protection, are in constant danger of being injured by cold, while rose comb hens, with the same protection, are practically frost proof. The comfort of the fowls should be considered; that is a question of humanity. A hen with a frozen comb will not lay; that is a question of dollars and cents.

Rose comb brown Leghorns have all the good qualities of the single comb variety, with a decided advantage in comb. They are hardy, handsome, excellent layers, and, when carefully bred, meet the requirements of the standard. But their friends should not overlook the fact that in the matter of comb there is much room for improvement. A small, symmetrical rose comb is a thing of beauty, and a flock of well bred, well fed, well cared for rose comb brown Leghorns is something of which their owner may well feel proud.—R. F. O'Neal in Club Catalogue.

The Man Next Door.

The man who stops advertising because his first efforts brought indifferent results, possesses some of the chief qualifications of a business failure. When he opened his store did he expect to do as much business the first year as the firm next door who had been pegging away for the last twenty years? Of course not. They had a good location; he was able to buy one just as good. They bought the best quality of goods for the money; so could he, and he did. They had an efficient corps of employees; so had he. They had a long list of good, regular customers; he had not. He knew, however, that that was the fruit of the right location, right goods and right prices, combined with perseverance. Without the perseverance the rest was fruitless.

It is exactly the same in advertising.

Readers are always on the lookout for new advertisers; they read the new advertisements perhaps more carefully than the old ones, exactly as they look at the window display of the new store.

When it comes to buying, however, they hesitate; they want to know something about the firm, and in the meantime the great majority of them buy elsewhere. Here is where the perseverance comes in—always granted, of course, that the other requirements are right. After buyers have read the advertisement of that firm for some time they require no introduction. If they want goods of that description they are very likely to answer it.—*The Wedge.*

Buff Color.

Buff color is a pretty difficult thing to define in words. We can get samples of the color on paper and on silk, but the real buff of the feathers is indescribable when seen in the highest state of perfection that nature and condition have brought about.

Buff is neither a red nor a yellow. We say this because there seems to still be a divergence of opinion on this point. We have seen good fanciers lean toward the reddish color and think it very nice, and again have seen equally good fanciers go wild for a pale yellow color. The *Standard* calls for a golden buff, and to a person who is not color blind that description should fill the bill. Years ago in England and in this country we had orange buff, lemon buff and cinnamon

buff, and that is why there is such a mixture in some Cochin strains today. The golden buff comes very close to being the orange buff, losing a trifle of the reddish sheen and gaining that golden luster so desirable in a buff fowl. To produce such, standard color must prevail in both male and females where mated. Extreme matings will produce shafty, ticked and mealy specimens. The first person to adhere to the theory of mating standard colored birds was George G. McCormick, of London, Canada. This was years ago, and we do not remember handling a more even lot of Buff Cochins in color than those shown by him some eight or nine years ago. The wonderful success in breeding for color attained by Buff Wyandotte breeders in the past three years is due to the fact that extreme matings were discarded and even colored buff specimens used. The same can be said of Buff Plymouth Rocks and Buff Leghorns and to a certain extent of Buff Cochins. But in Buff Cochin Bantams we still find too many red males and shafted and mealy colored females. A true buff male will show the same sheen and color in hackle, saddle and wing bow, the main tail feathers, wings and breast being also of the same color, the sickles corresponding closely in sheen and color to the hackle and saddle. In the female all sections should be alike, an even buff color with no shafting, the only exception being, perhaps, in the hackle, when in high conditioned specimens there will be found that grand golden luster so much admired. Under-color, although a trifle lighter buff, should never be overlooked. White under-color, and especially white quills, are serious drawbacks in breeding birds. Black or blue cast in under-color is not near as serious a defect as many breeders imagine. One of the best breeding birds we ever saw had considerable slate in the under-color. Suffice it to say that with standard matings and a thorough pedigree system in the selection little fear need be entertained of making a failure in producing fine specimens.—*J. H. Wevenstedt in Buff Wyandotte Club Catalogue.*

Exaggeration and Misrepresentation.

Stick reasonably close to the truth, boys. Make it the foundation of your business. The business may be somewhat slower of growth, but in the end it will yield more and better fruit, and besides paying commercially you will feel better mentally and spiritually. It is, no doubt, expecting a good deal to look for pure unalloyed truth and veracity from a chicken crank, and knowing pretty well the general make-up of the average amateur we are inclined to made considerable allowance for him. Like the safety valve on the steam boiler, it requires a good deal of pressure to hold down the pent-up bubbling enthusiasm of the victim of hen fever. Everything about our hobby is viewed through highly magnifying spectacles. The size of those eggs! How they grow! And frequently owing to some visual defect we see them double and even treble; and lo! we have those wonderful egg records. Then again, as we look through those fairy glasses observe how those colors glow and note how those bars and spangles arrange themselves with geometrical precision. Small wonder then that we hear so frequently of the birds scoring so mighty near the hundred mark. Oh! amateur, thou of the fervid imagination and the multiplying eye. We absolve

thee, but try, we pray, to not abuse our good nature. This class of exaggeration is rather amusing and hurts no one. These are the Eli Perkins of the poultry business, and in moderate doses we rather enjoy it and swallow it with a grin. The cold calculating misrepresentation, and distortion of fact systematically practiced by some breeders, however, is a much more serious matter. Some, by means of cunningly worded advertisements claim honors not rightfully belonging to them, or so word their advertisement as to convey to the reader the impression that old, obsolete winnings were of recent date. It is held, and possibly rightly (?), that it is perfectly legitimate and proper to purchase a bird for exhibition, and the purchaser is fully entitled to all the honors of its winning, and yet this same purchaser may not be able to produce even ordinary good stock of his own. And this sort of thing is not confined to the smaller breeders, but is practiced largely by the great and only, the nabobs of poultrydom, whose world wide reputation must be maintained at any cost. The expenditure of a few hundred dollars for the birds to win at the large shows is a good business proposition, and furnishes the gilded bait to catch the thousands of suckers who are always eager to pay a big price for a reputation, even though it may only be a whitewashed one. As for myself I would infinitely prefer making my purchase from some one of lesser note, who could honestly state over his own signature "bred and owned by," etc.

It would seem from a scrutiny of some of the large poultry journals that about the only items they deem of interest to their readers is the minute description of the "Great Gold Crest Poultry Farm," or the mammoth plant of John Hardcash, etc. And right here it might be suggested that if some of these editors would examine closely they might find that the spectacles they were wearing were of the exaggerating kind, and they are mistaking the gilt edge reputation or a possible advertising contract of Mr. Rocks for the quality of his stock. Of course none of us are angels in this respect, and we expect to "dip our peak" in a measure to the "almighty dollar," but for the sake of appearances, at least, let us not get down on all fours.—*Robt. S. Taylor in Inland Poultry Journal.*

Twenty-Six Points in Turkey Culture.

The following twenty-six pointers on turkey raising are taken from a catalogue of an Indiana turkey raiser:

1. Never let the young turkeys get wet. The slightest dampness is fatal.
2. Feed nothing the first twenty-four hours after they are hatched.
3. Before putting them in the coop see that it is perfectly clean and free from lice, and dust them three times a week with Persian insect powder.
4. Be sure the hen is free from lice. Dust her, too.
5. Look out for mites and the large lice on the heads, neck and vents. Grease heads, necks and vents with lard, but avoid kerosene.
6. Nine-tenths of the young turkeys die from lice. Remember that.
7. Filth will soon make short work of them. Feed on clean surfaces. Give water in a manner so they can only wet their beaks.
8. The first week feed a mixture of one egg beaten, and sifted ground oats or rolled oats, mixed with salt to taste,

and cooked as bread, then crumbled for them; with milk or curds so they can drink all they want. Feed every two hours early and late.

9. Give a little raw meat every day; also finely chopped onions or other tender green food.

10. After the first week keep wheat and ground bone in boxes before them all the time, but feed three times a day on a mixture of cornmeal, wheat middlings, ground oats, all cooked, and to which chopped green food is added.

11. Mashed potatoes, cooked turnips, cold rice and such will always be in order.

12. Too much of hard-boiled egg will cause bowel disease.

13. Remove coop to fresh ground often in order to avoid filth.

14. Ground bone, fine gravel, ground shells and a dust bath must be provided.

15. Give them liberty on dry, warm days.

16. They must be carefully attended to until well feathered.

17. Finely cut fresh bones, from the butcher's, with adhering meat, are excellent.

18. A high roost in an open shed, which faces the south, is better than a closed house, for grown turkeys.

19. A single union of a male and female fertilizes all the eggs the hen will lay for the season, hence one gobbler will suffice for twenty or more hens.

20. Two-year-old gobblers with pullets or a yearling gobbler with two-year-old hens is good mating.

21. Turkeys can be hatched in an incubator and raised to the age of three months in a brooder, but only in lots of twenty-five, as they require constant care.

22. Capons make excellent nurses for turkey and chicks.

23. It is not advisable to mate a forty-pound gobbler with common hens, as the result will be an injury. A medium sized gobbler is better.

24. Young gobblers may be distinguished from the females by being heavier, more masculine in appearance, more circumscribed on the head, and a development of the "tassels" on the breast. A little experience may be required at first.

25. Adult turkeys cannot be kept in confinement, as they will pine away. By feeding them in the barnyard a little night and morning, they will not stray off very far, but they cannot be entirely prevented from roaming, and the hen prefers to make her own nest.

26. Gobblers and hens of the same age may be mated, but it is better to have a difference in the age.

A Representative Paper.

EASTERN POULTRYMAN received. A careful examination of the same convinces me that it is *all right* both from a typographical standpoint and for the excellence of its articles on poultry culture in general.

It is clearly a representative paper in its chosen field and should be found in the home of every true fancier who is interested in better poultry and more of it. May onward be its watchword and success its course.

E. E. PEACOCK.
Kent's Hill, Me.

Give the ducks and geese plenty of clean straw or leaves for bedding, changing sufficiently often to keep clean, and not only will better health be maintained but more valuable manure be secured.

Profits of the Broiler Business.

One of our subscribers inquires regarding the broiler business, and asks several questions which are so well answered in an article by M. K. Boyer in the *Poultry Monthly* that we reprint it and would suggest that those who are anticipating a fortune from broilers should give it a careful reading.

Broiler raising as an exclusive business is practically a failure. The amount of risk in buying eggs for hatching, the variety of stock hatched, and the varied condition of such stock hatched, has given too much risk to broiler raising as an exclusive affair. But combine the broiler business with that of raising eggs for market, and you have a combination that means a year 'round income, and the risk of loss is partly lessened. Selling eggs when prices are high, and turning them into broilers when prices are on the decline, is a good rule to work by.

Prices for broilers have held out very well during the past few years, as high as 60 cents a pound being reached. When I first became interested in this branch—it was in the infancy of the industry—the prices kept hovering very close to 80 cents a pound. Yet at that figure, in those days there was less profit than in 60 cents a pound today. Why? We have breeds better adapted to the work; we have better incubators and brooding systems; we have better knowledge of how to feed and care for the chicks. These improvements lessen the loss, and with less risk, we can make more profit.

During the past few years, a new branch has sprung up—the sale of "squab broilers." These are chicks at a weight of from one-half to three-fourths pound each. This demand was created owing to the annual scarcity of wild birds, and especially squabs. As high as 90 cents a pair has been paid for this class of goods. There is a possibility of this branch being overdone, which would naturally lower the price. It is a question, in the minds of broiler raisers, whether it pays better to sell squab broilers, or raise them to regular size. The argument is advanced that the greatest loss is experienced during the early life of the chick, and as it is easier to add weight after a chick has reached three-fourths pound, there is more profit in the regular broiler (1½ pounds).

There are fewer broiler plants in this country to-day than ever before, but the quality of broilers, the successful measures, etc., make it a branch which makes bigger profits than anything else. That is a fact, however, only where eggs are raised at home. A careful inspection of the methods employed, the success, etc., of the prosperous growers has evinced the fact that the secret of success lies in the selection of a breed of fowls that will combine growth and plumpness in the shortest time after leaving the eggs. Such stock kept at home, and fed and cared for so as to assure strong fertility, gives the broiler man material from which he can produce the ideal article.

I give these facts briefly, as the impression has gone forth that the industry is dead, and that it died from the effect of low prices and big cost. There could be no more cruel blow struck. If dead—but it is not dead—it died by careless handling from incompetent men. The prices are not low, and never have been so low that they did not afford a profit to the practical man. The cost of production depends upon the price of eggs, labor, methods, etc. The practical man regulates these. So it will be seen that,

with experienced work and common-sense methods, and when made an adjunct to other branches, broiler raising, instead of being dead, is a live, healthy and profitable business.

Serviceable Cross-breeds.

That a cross between two pure breeds gives increased fertility is a well known fact, though it by no means follows that crossing can be carried on advantageously without the exercise of some judgment. There is a prevalent idea that if fresh blood is imported now and then into the stock, it is of no importance whatever as to what that blood consists of. Therefore, the usual thing in many country places is to change one or two cockerels for others from a different yard, no regard being paid to the breed of birds or if they are likely to produce the kind of chickens most suitable to the soil and to the local markets. There are many most suitable cross-breeds, but the cross to be made use of ought to depend on the object for which the poultry is kept, whether for the production of eggs or for growing chickens for the table.

When eggs are the chief desideratum such fowls as Leghorns, Minorcas, and Andalusians, when freely crossed into the stock, will largely increase the egg average. Even when the hens are nearly all nondescripts, which is often the case, the introduction of male birds of any of these breeds will make a lot of improvement in the laying stock. An excellent cross for laying is the Minorca-Langshan hen. The pullets are handsome black fowls maturing early, and laying a number of good sized, tinted eggs. They are well adapted for either the free range or small run, as they do not show smoke or dirt, and stand confinement well. The Andalusian-Langshan is another very good cross for laying, the eggs being large and mostly colored.

When big, meaty chickens are required it is not advisable to use male birds such as Leghorn or Minorca, or the produce will be narrow and deficient in breast. In districts where cockerels of these breeds are largely used it is almost impossible to get table poultry with any quantity of meat on them. There is no better cross for producing high class table chickens than that between the Indian Game and the Wyandotte. The chickens are very large, and carry a lot of meat in the right places. The old English Game crossed with the Wyandotte hens result in chickens that are more tender in flesh than the Indian Game cross, but they are not so large. A fowl of great merit, that is not made use of sufficiently, is the Houdan. It is in most respects as good for crossing as the Wyandotte. The chickens from a Houdan cock crossed with the Brahma, the Indian Game, the Plymouth Rock, the Langshan, and other breeds, mature very quickly and are big, lumpy birds. The Houdan is particularly hardy, and the eggs are unusually fertile, it being quite the exception to find any clear after incubation.

For a good useful cross for all around purposes, there is hardly any better than the Dorking-Brahma, bred from the Dorking cock and light Brahma hen. The pullets in their first season will lay a quantity of good sized, tinted eggs; while for eating purposes the chickens are excellent. Generally speaking, when table chickens are desired, Dorking, Indian Game, Houdan, English Game, Langshan, and Plymouth

Rock cocks will all do well, whatever the breed of the hens may be.

The chief object of the majority of poultry keepers is a supply of eggs. If they can only get enough of these for breakfast and for cooking purposes they care nothing for hatching chickens or for show birds, in most instances hardly knowing one breed from another. A look at the contents of the poultry runs to be seen in the neighborhood of towns discloses the fact that the mongrel is very much in evidence. Seldom can any distinct breed be traced. The birds vary in color, some have single and some have double combs, and feathered and unfeathered legs are to be seen indiscriminately. But their untraceable origin is to be guessed at. The question, however, is so often asked: which is the best cross-bred fowl to keep? that a few suggestions on this point may not be out of place.

Many poultry keepers appear unaware of the fact that the cross bred and the mongrel are not the same thing. A cross bred is generally understood to be the product of two distinct pure breeds; whereas the mongrel is composed of various breeds, whose original characteristics have become hopelessly mixed and swamped. Many poultry growers make a practice of rearing some cross bred chickens, as they find a ready sale for them. Numbers are advertised in the live stock papers. Some of these birds are stated to average over 200 eggs in the year; 250 and upwards being sometimes reached; but if half a dozen hens can be relied upon to produce 900 eggs per annum, it can be considered very satisfactory and will leave plenty of margin for profit.

Of all the cross breeds there are few to surpass the Minorca-Langshan after all, bred from the Black Minorca cock and Black Langshan hen. This alliance produce certainly large, handsome, black pullets, layers of large, brown eggs, both in summer and in winter, standing confinement well and though generally setters, easily broken of the desire to incubate. A cross which produces very fine fowls is that of an Andalusian and a Langshan, the offspring being mostly black, much like the Minorca-Langshan, and the egg colored and large. The Redcap Minorca cross is extensively being adopted in some few parts of the country; it is said by its admirers to be the best and most profitable cross that any one can keep. It is very hardy and produces quantities of large white eggs. In color it is usually black with a rose comb, a non-setter, and bearing confinement well. Another capital cross for egg production is the Redcap Buff Cochin now seen. The Redcap is a very free layer, and crossed with the Buff Cochin, the pullets lay a vast number of tinted eggs. The birds themselves are very handsome, in most instances buff colored, spotted with black. This cross the writer has practiced upon for two years with splendid results.

Dorking-Brahma is a well known cross, and one that can be thoroughly recommended. It is best to produce this cross by mating a short legged Dorking cock with a Brahma hen, and not with the sexes reversed. The Silver Grey Dorking with the light Brahma hen makes a handsome bird. A cross that is highly spoken of by those who have tried it is the Scotch-grey Minorca, said to be the most prolific layer. Most of the crosses with the Houdan are, as

aforesaid, good layers, and it is seldom that a half-bred Langshan of any kind does not lay well. There is no question that the Minorca-Langshan is a highly useful bird, and as it is easily procurable, anyone wishing for a really good cross breed should give it a trial.—*Western Poultry News.*

Grading up the Flock.

One engaged in any business, if interested in the work and alive to his or her own interest, feels disappointed and discouraged if the close of each year does not show that progress has been made.

This ambition stimulates to the bending of every energy of brain and hand that its accomplishment may be possible, and it is with much satisfaction and self-congratulation that one sees the realization of this desire.

In poultry culture every earnest, successful breeder feels this spirit of progress within, and all the planning and every day's work is a consequence of this desire.

Seldom, at the close of one season, does the breeder's flock show characteristics and qualities exactly as was possessed by the flock of the previous season. I say seldom, simply because others may have witnessed such an equality, but in my own experience I never have. If the flock, as a whole, does not show marked improvement, deterioration is plainly discernible. Breeders "grade up" their flock every year that the desired improvement may be attained, and not only is this "grading up" practiced by small breeders, beginners and amateurs, but by the successful, long-time breeders as well, whose fowls, to the inexperienced eye, appear already perfect in quality. Systematic grading up consists in a careful selection of the birds possessing finest quality or marked points of excellence, because of which they approach most nearly the perfect fowl as portrayed in the Standard of Perfection, and retaining these birds for next season's breeding pens. Often has it been demonstrated that "like produce like," and such being nature's law, the parent stock must be fine in quality if the young birds show excellence in form, plumage and general characteristics.

Perhaps the beginner, of only a season or two in poultry raising, may have a flock that are pure-blooded or thoroughbred fowls, and yet, when compared with the standard birds of same breed or variety, they fall so far short of the acknowledged requirements of their particular breed that there is very little satisfaction or pride in the possession of such a flock. They may be thoroughbred and still be culls, with defects so marked that the prosperous breeder would, if the birds belonged to him, doom them to the hatchet and the block. But beginners in poultry culture cannot always afford to purchase the very best stock for the foundation of their flock, and so sometimes feel as if second-rate or inferior fowls must answer. Looking upon such a flock, do not be utterly discouraged and give up the business, but set your teeth hard and with a determination to have a flock much better in quality another season. Go to work in earnest, without any loss of time, for now is the best time to commence your work for improvement in the quality of your birds.

Take your Standard of Perfection, the poultry breeder's guide (if you have not one, get it without delay), take your bid-

dies, one at a time, and section by section, compare them with the description of the Standard's perfect bird. Of course they will none of them very closely approach perfection, but some will be much better than others, and perhaps some will have disqualifying defects. Select only the first, even if very few in number, and reject the last, even if half the flock, and keep these best for your breeding pens the coming season. Study the advertisements of reliable breeders of the breed or variety of your fowls, and write to one of these breeders that you feel you can trust, explaining fully your plan for the bettering of your flock, telling of the most glaring defects of the females, and ask this breeder to send you a male to head your pen the coming season. If a beginner, it is much better to trust to the greater poultry wisdom and experience of an old-time breeder than to use your own judgment in making a selection. Do not be frightened if the price far exceeds your idea of the value of a single bird, but remember this bird is half your pen, and console yourself with the thought that you are doing your best to become a progressive breeder, and hope, work and watch for the great improvement in next season's flock. This system of grading up the flock should be practiced every fall; that is, a selection of the most choice specimens of hens and pullets should be retained for the coming season's breeding pens, and if no desirable male is found in the home flock to head the pen, send for one as first advised. Certainly it is more preferable that the foundation stock should be as near perfection as possible, but as it takes a nice sum of money to buy such fowls, many of our beginners may look with longing eyes upon such desirable birds, but must be content with others—thoroughbreds, yet lacking in quality, perhaps culls from the same yards that contained the more desirable fowls. It is to encourage such beginners that I advise this grading up, which patiently and perseveringly practiced, season after season, will satisfy and delight you with its final results.—*Poultry Investigator.*

Have Two Sources of Profit—Eggs and Meat.

It is quite common for poultry writers or any one talking about poultry raising, to speak of "keeping fowls for eggs," or "running an egg farm," or the Leghorns are the great egg-producers," and to wholly overlook the fact that there are other (and additional) sources of profit, that the man who keeps fowls for eggs only "has but one string to his bow;" whereas by taking thought for the other and quite as important sources of profit he may, without at all shrinking the profit from eggs, have another and equally profitable source of income; in fact, may double the income from his poultry business, says A. F. Hunter in *Commercial Poultry*. A good example of considering the egg-side of the business only is an article entitled "Egg Farms and Egg Farming," which appeared in a poultry paper recently. The writer says: More than ever in this country, where dollars count, the poultry 'fad' is taking on a practical aspect. 'How much is there in it for me?' becomes the absorbing question with many in these days. This naturally leads us to consider the egg-farming branch of the industry, for here, in the eggs that the hens lay through the year you may

find the foundation, the corner-stone, the bed-rock of the poultry business. Without joking the egg is a staple article. It is in the market to stay, because people will have eggs the year around, whatever they may cost. Good market eggs bring an income at all seasons of the year. Undoubtedly the egg business is the best paying part of the whole industry in the long run. It means a steady income, a sure income, and one obtained with comparative ease. No wonder that egg-farms are springing up all over the country."

True, the author of the above speaks of eggs being "the foundation," and by so much he implies that they are not the whole thing, because a foundation supposes a superstructure, suggests that something is to be erected upon it, and it is my purpose to point to the advantages of having another source of income in the business, and one which most admirably joins onto and supplements the income from eggs, namely—the income from meat. In fact, eggs and meat are the two sources of profit in the poultry business, and the best all the year round income is obtained by uniting the two—not from either one separately.

The author quoted rather overstates his case when he says that "good market eggs bring an income at all seasons of the year." They undoubtedly would do so if we had fowls that produced eggs uninterruptedly throughout the year, but, unfortunately the most of us haven't got fowls that are built that way, and there comes a depressing shrinkage of the income from eggs just at the season when there is a steady expansion in the feed bills, owing to the large number of hungry youngsters that are coming along to take the place of the old birds, which should soon be turned off to market. Fowls do not go on laying year after year indefinitely; if they did the problem would be a simple one and the income sure. We must have a succession of layers if we would have the best possible income from eggs, and to get that succession of layers we must turn off the old birds each year and have young ones to put in their places.

A considerable experience in egg-farming and much study given to the problems involved has convinced me that the best results in the way of profit from eggs alone can be gotten by early-spring hatched pullets, kept growing so they will commence laying about October 1, then kept laying by good care and good food until just before the time for them to molt the following September; and then sell them off to market, so they are out of the way of the succession-crop of youngsters which we have been growing to take their places. In considering eggs only, as we are now doing so that we may get "a point of view," it is necessary to remember that the price of eggs rises steadily through some six or seven months of the year, reaching its highest point about Thanksgiving time (say December 1), then gradually falls away again until about the first of May. This rise and fall in price is very much like the rise and fall of the tide in the ocean, and quite as regular.

It has come to be believed by experienced poultrymen that they get somewhat larger, stronger and better chickens from the eggs of year old hens than from those of pullets, hence they consider it wise to keep over through a second winter about half of the pullets of the

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The columns of this paper are open to communications concerning anything in which our readers may be interested. Contributions and questions on Poultry topics are solicited, and our readers are invited to use the paper as a medium for the exchange of ideas of mutual interest.

NOVEMBER, 1901.

This number is somewhat delayed owing to removal from South Freeport to Freeport, Maine, which is now the Post Office to which all communications and correspondence connected with the paper should be addressed.

The Maine State Show.

Every poultry breeder in Maine should remember that the great State poultry show will be held in Lewiston, December 17, 18, 19 and 20.

Indications are that this will be the largest and most enthusiastic show held in New England, with the exception of the Boston show, and in practical features and educational value will surpass any poultry show ever held in America.

This latter statement may appear to be wild, but a glance at the premium list will convince the breeders that the management have endeavored to have the practical features made prominent, and by the offering of large cash prizes hope to carry out this idea.

Through the liberality of prominent citizens of Maine, a generous fund has been raised, and the Association guarantees the prompt payment of all premiums. This Association is not a narrow local club of fanciers, but is in fact as well as in name a State Association. Its membership of over one hundred includes breeders in all parts of the State, and associated with them are a number of the best known and wealthiest men of Maine, who are interested in the affairs of the Association.

The practical utility features of the show include the exhibition of all varieties of live poultry, and also a large display of dressed poultry and eggs, about \$200.00

being offered as cash specials on this part of it, and no entry fee required. This should arouse our Maine poultrymen and farmers to immediate action, and instead of killing their best for Thanksgiving, should keep them two weeks longer and send them to Lewiston, and win some of these prizes.

The Governor's special prize of \$50.00 is offered for first, second and third best displays of dressed poultry by Maine breeders. There are also prizes for single birds, and exhibits of two pairs of each of the prominent market breeds, and for eggs, which are well worth an effort to win, for the intrinsic value of the prizes, to say nothing of the honor of winning in a show like this. This is a great opportunity for the practical poultry breeders of Maine to make themselves known, and we trust they will respond to the invitation.

In the Open Classes of live poultry, in which the whole world can compete, there is a most liberal classification and distribution of large cash specials which should interest the fanciers of the Eastern States and Provinces, and should bring to Lewiston the best birds in the country. By the arrangement of premiums, the largest regular prizes will be paid on the classes where the competition is strongest, and the opportunity of winning the cash specials should make the entries large.

The judges are men of national reputation, who are selected for their known familiarity with the breeds they will judge, and the best specimens will win, regardless of ownership.

The special features will include lectures by several well-known experts and specialists, instruction in caponizing, etc., a contest in dressing poultry, bone cutting contests and other entertaining and instructive features, and a banquet tendered the Association and invited guests, by the Lewiston Board of Trade.

Lewiston, with its twin city, Auburn, has a population of about 40,000, and being the center of a great agricultural and industrial district and with superior railroad facilities, offers especial advantages as a show city.

The Association has awakened throughout the State a deeper interest in poultry breeding, and during the past year hundreds of new breeders have entered the ranks. There cannot be found a better opportunity for breeders to place their stock before a class which will include many buyers, than is offered by the great Poultry Show at Lewiston, December 17, 18, 19 and 20, 1901.

Lynn Poultry Show, Jan. 7, 8, 9, 10, '02.

The Lynn Poultry Association is in a very flourishing condition, and will give one of the best score card shows held in New England. Judges: J. Fred Watson, Nashua, N. H.; D. P. Shove, Fall River, Mass.; R. D. Craft, Somerville, Mass.; Pigeon Judge.

The American Buff Leghorn Club at the Pan-American.

A meeting of the American Buff Leghorn Club was held in connection with the poultry display at Buffalo, N. Y., on Friday, October 25th, at 2 P. M., in the Agricultural Building. The meeting was called to order by the President, Chas. L. Thayer, and was one of the largest and most enthusiastic ones ever held by the Club, there being members present from Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Canada and Michigan.

The members present reported that the demand for good stock has never been better, and that their stock was improving each year.

The following officers were elected:

President, Chas. L. Thayer, Chicago, Ill.; Eastern Vice President, Harry M. Lemon, Watertown, N. Y.; Western Vice President, Eugene N. Lacey, Kansas City, Mo.; Secretary and Treasurer, Geo. S. Barnes, Battle Creek, Mich. Honorary Vice Presidents: James Dundas, Deer Park, Ont., Can., F. E. Olson, Galva, Ill., C. A. Darling, Hopewell, N. J., Richard Jones, Venetia, Pa., B. F. Hislop, Milford, Ill., George F. Curtis, Fenton, Mich. Executive Committee: Aug. D. Arnold, Dillsburg, Pa., Thomas Peer, Fairfield, N. J., James Dundas, Deer Park, Ont., Can.

The Executive Committee decided to offer a fine silver cup in each state where here are ten members of good standing. Cup to be competed for by members only.

H. E. Lemon moved that the elegant cup offered at the Pan American by the Club, be awarded to James Dundas, of Canada, and the same was presented to him by President Thayer. This is the first Club cup that has ever gone outside of the states.

It was gratifying to the Club to notice the grand display of Buff Leghorns on exhibition, and more so when it was discovered that as to numbers and quality none of the old time Leghorns were in the lead at all, and some were far behind. The Club is on the gain and desires to have all true fanciers become members. Send your name in at once and get on the list of membership that will be sent out by the Club to all breeders in the United States and Canada.

GEO. S. BARNES, Sec.
Battle Creek, Mich.

To the Poultrymen of New England.

The first exhibition of the Maine State Poultry and Pet Stock Association will be a golden opportunity for you to exhibit your stock, for, aside from the liberal prizes offered, the advantage of showing the stock in a comparatively new field should be considered.

The extensive advertising being done through the state will bring to the show a large gathering of breeders and people who are interested, and many people will make their start in the business this winter, while many of the breeders will look for stock to purchase. The breeder who is fortunate enough to win the honors on any of the popular varieties will find some good customers.

The prizes are the most liberal offered by any Eastern show, and with the great interest that has been aroused throughout the state, we believe that exhibitors will find it to their advantage to enter their stock for the show at Lewiston, Dec. 17, 18, 19, 20, 1901.

GEORGE P. COFFIN, Secretary.
Freeport, Me.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS OF THE DAY.

In order to keep our paper in closest touch with its thousands of readers who are engaged in the work to which it is devoted, our aim is to have the readers express their ideas and the results of their own experience and observation concerning some of the subjects under discussion.

We shall publish each month a list of practical questions and invite our readers, one and all, to contribute their answers to any and all questions.

These answers will be published in the second paper after the question, and we shall hope for a full and free discussion. Our readers are also invited to ask any question of general importance. Perhaps the problem which is puzzling you may have been solved already by some of our readers, and the correct solution will help others as well as yourself. Then let the questions be forthcoming, and give us your answer to those asked by others. The EASTERN POULTRYMAN is published in your interests, and we invite you to join with us in improving its quality and extending its influence.

In sending answers we want not only the "yes" or "no," but we want the "how" and the "why," the "which" and the "when."

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN THE DECEMBER NUMBER.

Is it advisable to promptly "break up" broody hens, and what is the best method of caring for them?

Is there any advantage in crossing breeds?

How many fowls can one man properly care for, raising chicks enough to replace the fowls disposed of each year, and keeping the stock in the best condition for profit?

How many fowls can profitably be kept on an acre?

What is the best method of caring for and using the poultry droppings?

Of what does your mash consist and at what time is it fed?

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN THE JANUARY NUMBER.

How do you care for the breeding stock through the winter?

How do you care for the laying stock?

What is the best form of meat food?

How high are your roosts and how much roost space do you allow each hen?

Regarding the R. I. Red Standard.

Editor Eastern Poultryman:—

I have read with interest the replies of Mr. Hollis and Mr. Cochran regarding the admission of the Rhode Island Red to the American Standard of Perfection and while they have advanced much good argument against this move they fail to show in any particular why a plain, positive and comprehensive standard is not as necessary for the correct breeding of the Rhode Island Red as for any other breed of poultry. It is conceded that a number of persons living so closely together as to be able to meet occasionally and exchange ideas might be able to develop and perfect a new breed with the merest skeleton of a standard or in fact without any written standard at all and so long as the product of their effort was not offered to the public as a breed no one would have any right to criticise

their methods. When, however, these parties begin to offer for sale and put their birds on the market it is certainly not unreasonable to expect them to present a standard that would give their customers equal chance to continue the development of the breed, especially when offered to the public in so exceedingly crude a state as were the Rhode Island Reds. Mr. Hollis certainly mis-

understands me if he thought my desire for a fixed definite standard emanated from any commercial motives whatever. I am breeding the Red because I find in it a bird very nearly approaching my ideal as a utility fowl and also one of the most beautiful birds ever produced in this or any other country. The commercial side of the business is decidedly a secondary matter with me although I frankly admit I generally make it pay its way. Mr. Hollis says his only fear for the Rhode Island Red is that it may move too fast and I also am of the same opinion, only I think the trouble is a good deal like trying to run an express train over a new plowed field before any track or rails are laid to guide it. As for myself I do not care an iota whether the Red is bred under a standard controlled by the American Poultry Association or by the Rhode Island Red Club. What I do object to, however, is the necessity of being compelled to employ an interpreter or practice mind reading to tell what a standard means. Mr. Hollis speaks of spending a whole day in the neighborhood of where the Standard (?) Rhode Island Red originated and as he was also in the company of one of the best recognized judges of the Red, possibly he may have discovered some clue as to what a Standard Red is like and if so he will confer a lasting benefit and earn the undying gratitude of us "Gentiles" out here in the woods and we will hail him as the really good Samaritan who took compassion on us. To know what constitutes a Standard Rhode Island Red is what we hunger and thirst for and we candidly admit the present Club standard is not much more intelligible to us than the characters on a Chinese tea box. As for Mr. Hollis and Mr. Cochran I greet you as honest brother fanciers whose interest is for the best for the Red and I clasp your hand in the spirit of true fraternity, but I say to you gentlemen there is a growing feeling here in the West that the readoption of that enigma known as the Rhode Island Red Standard was a pretty slick business move, calculated to restrict the breeding of good stock to the little coterie of gentlemen so fortunate as to possess the key to the cypher of the cryptogram. There is one thing certain; these gentlemen in charge do not seem inclined to shed any light on what constitutes a Standard R. I. Red and are apparently quite willing that all outside the charmed circle may continue to guess. In conclusion, while we are perfectly willing that the Eastern promoters of this grand bird shall have due credit for their work and the good things they have done for us we are too much interested in the future of the Red to be satisfied to be shut out from participating in its ultimate triumph.

Yours very truly,
ROBT. S. TAYLOR.
Port Huron, Mich.

The Mongrel Goose.

Written for the Eastern Poultryman.

In Rhode Island and Connecticut quite an extensive business is done in raising Mongrel Geese for the market. Now, the word "mongrel" does not in this case mean "a general mixture of everything" but is understood by goose raisers to mean the progeny of the Canadian or Wild Gander crossed upon Toulouse, African or Brown China geese.

The market price for these birds is usually about twice that of common geese. In quality of flesh they rank next to the Canvasback duck, having delicate and tender flesh of excellent flavor.

As the progeny of these crosses are always barren it is necessary to continue the crossing each year, and as the trait of the gander is the monogamous mating, it is necessary to have as many males as females. But they will mate for life and be safe breeders for twenty-five years and the goslings are usually so hardy that there are no losses, so there are some strong points in their favor.

During the breeding season it is best to have each pair in a yard by themselves as the ganders will fight each other furiously and sometimes to the death.

The goslings are quick growers and where the business is carried on extensively, are usually bought up in August by the fatteners and prepared for the Thanksgiving market.

They are sent to market undrawn. The body only is plucked, the feathers being left on the head, wings, neck and tail. This is to distinguish them from any other breed.

Some of the breeders claim to make \$100 per year from a pair of breeding stock, which would mean the raising of twenty goslings. But even with half that number there would still be a good profit.

In purchasing ganders none should be bought under three years of age as they are unsafe as breeders. If there are any of the wild females within sight or hearing, the ganders will not mate with the other females.

There is good money to be made in this business and we hope to see more of the Eastern poultrymen engaging in it.

FLORA SNOW.

Personal Mention.

Every bird that is exhibited at a show should wear a leg brand for purposes of identification. Of course every record keeper needs to have his layers branded. Mr. F.O. Wellcome, the inventor of the Ideal Trap, Nest is selling the Ideal Aluminum leg band. This band is made in such a shape that when once on it cannot be lost off or removed by the hens and is smooth so that it does not injure the fowl's leg. It is easy to apply and can be easily removed if desired. See ad.

Mr. A. L. Merrill, Auburn, Me., has about fifty White and Buff Wyandotte pullets for sale at \$1.00 each.

Mr. E. E. Peacock, Kent's Hill, Me., writes us that he has a White Wyandotte pullet that commenced laying when she was five months old and in the first eighty-two days laid sixty-two eggs. Although Mr. Peacock is a fancier and breeds to the requirements of the Standard, his birds, both Rocks and Dottes, are good utility stock.

Sloppy food should be avoided. Make the mash crumbly.

Have Two Sources of Profit:—Eggs and Meat.

Continued from Page 38.

previous year. I will illustrate by supposing that I have a poultry farm, with house room for 600 head of laying fowls. Conceding that it is better that all the chickens be hatched from hens' (not pullets') eggs I would want to keep 200 year-old hens (which would be the best of the four hundred pullets of the year before), and four hundred well-matured pullets. This would give me two hundred two-year-old and two hundred one-year-old hens to be marketed each year; quite a little source of income there if we plan it aright. In addition to the four hundred hens all of the cockerels hatched with the pullets (which were hatched out to raise the early laying pullets from), are to go to market. We all know that not all of the pullets will be up to our standard for first-class layers. If we are running a profitable egg-farm we want only the best, the strongest, most vigorous and manifestly healthy birds in our laying pens, and to get these very best birds we must cull carefully; we will cull out and reject fully a third (the poorer third) of the lot. As we want 400 good ones and as taking one year with another, just about half the chickens hatched are cockerels, we will need to have about twelve hundred chickens to get the four hundred high-class pullets which are to do the heavy laying through the coming fall and winter. That means that we will have about 600 cockerels and 200 cull pullets to market, in addition to the 400 hens already planned for; that makes in all 1,200 birds to send to market each year from the farm carrying an average of 600 head of layers. Isn't it well then to consider this very considerable additional source of income? I wish to emphasize the fact that up to this time I have been considering the egg-side of the business only, considering a farm on which egg-production is the source of profit, and even from that farm there is to be double the number of birds marketed that is to be kept for layers—if the farm is run in a first-class manner, is a thoroughly "up-to-date" egg-farm. It makes no difference whether a man winters six or sixty or 600 layers, the principle is the same; there will be, taking one year with another, twice as many birds to sell to market, or to eat, as there are layers wintered. Isn't it wise then, to consider the meat as well as eggs in calculating profits? Not to take into account this income from meat is to overlook a very substantial aid to the balance on the right side of the ledger to my thinking.

A careful student of poultry problems would consider eggs to be but a raw material, from which could be manufactured a product many times more profitable than eggs alone. I well remember the reply made by Mr. James Rankin when I asked him how much profit he could make from one hen in a year. He said: "Forty dollars, if I turn her eggs into chickens and raise them for meat for market," and in the reply we get a glimpse of the possibilities of profit that lie on the meat side of the poultry business. Egg-farming is an excellent business, and, rightly managed, a decidedly profitable one; but in combining eggs and meat we get the most complete returns, we come the nearest to an all-the-year-round income. Eggs pay the best profit in late fall and winter, and where the profit from eggs shrinks

to a small stream it can be augmented by an income from market-chicks, which will be greatly increased just at the time the egg-income has shrunk to almost nothing; at that time there are the surplus cockerels and cull pullets to market, followed by the year-old and two-year-old hens that we must get out of the way because we want the house-room for the pullets. It is to this combined business of eggs and meat to poultry-farming in its broader sense rather than to egg-farming with its limitations, that I would invite the attention of the aspiring beginner in poultry work.

Advantages of Line Breeding.

When one tells us that the Fancy is in its infancy, we generally reflect a moment and then ask for an explanation. Is it possible that after over fifty years of Standard or fancy poultry breeding that the business is yet small compared with what it will be? The breeding of Standard fowls has made rapid strides for the last ten or twenty years, and predictions are that this prominent industry will progress more rapidly in the next score years than it has during the preceding half century. We can only see the cause of this advance when we look at the flocks of prominent poulters who have reduced the rearing of fowls and their mating to a science, a certainty. Can the latter be denied or disputed when one beholds the Ainscough, and Frayne Games, the Sharp Cochins, the Bradley Barred Rock cockerels or the Latham pullets, the Robinson Langshans or the Burdick Nuggets? Specimens from the yards of these breeders show uniformity of type and character. There are other fanciers who deserve merit for the aid they have donated and what they have contributed to their favorite varieties, yet they prefer to put their lamp under a bushel than attain popularity or publicity. These men who have contributed largely to the Standard fowl have used continuous lines of birds, bred with a desired and ever present ideal. They could have done nothing of merit unless they had used their common sense and utilized the laws and principles of breeding. Uniformity of type and color has been proven attainable not only in a few but in the many specimens which leave their yards annually and in those they choose to exhibit. Line breeding is practicable, feasible, and safe to the amateur or novice or to the veteran crank if carried on or practiced within Nature's laws.

Nature lends herself quite readily to those who work within her laws.

The progression in hybridizing of all plant life, in the perfecting of the various breeds and varieties of horses, cattle, sheep, and poultry shows what can be accomplished in the realm of the mutes if Nature's laws are adhered to. Nature intends that the laws of vigor be carefully acquiesced in, that one in breeding these domestic necessities shall not overlook stamina in mating and breeding, for the sake of a few excellent points to be gained by using undeveloped or vigorless specimens. The fecundity of the domestic fowl depends entirely on its vigor. Ofttimes we find poulters whose fowls are confined in filthy small parks (if such they may be called), ranging up and down the fences with no other diversion or exercise. No dust bath or shady, cool place, nor the absolute safeguard of the space limited fancier, the scratching shed. These breeders try, under the most un-

favorable circumstances, to accomplish something that they never will attain if they disregard Nature's laws of fecundity or vigor. Yet they will, after a few unsuccessful attempts, basely denounce inbreeding to establish wanted characteristics. Who ever saw a beautiful fowl which kept his beauty without exercise? Or eggs that would hatch under the circumstances of the aforementioned fancier's fowls? An utter disregard of Nature's laws will result in total failure.

We have in the Standard bred fowl the patience of breeders who deserve to be lauded; the skill of men who have worked hand in hand with Nature; the results of years and years of mating and remating, and the thoughtful use of minds more knowing than ours. And after the results of our best breeders who have coined, shaped, and perfected our Standard bred fowls, some of the hen crank skeptics dare say, "Breeding is not one of the fine arts." Surely nothing would have been produced worthy of praise had we been dependent on them for it.

True fanciers who have seen the efforts of our best and earliest breeders stop short of nothing but success, have taken up the work in earnest, with their hobbies, and have made marvelous headway in the perfecting and improving of certain strains toward Standard requirements. The breeding of fowls in small numbers and in back yards has produced a class of fanciers who have been obliged to make a study of scientific matings. They are the greatest exponents of line breeding we have. If one would, under unfavorable circumstances, produce winners for exhibition, he must needs furnish to his breeders all the artifices of Nature and mate his fowls with a certainty. Certainties are only sure when line breeding is practiced. Seeing the success of the city lot fancier he has prompted numerous village acre breeders to follow up this line of breeding and raise larger numbers with that much more certainty of producing top specimens. We occasionally see poultrymen who are killing their business by depending on quantity to furnish quality. This will never gibe, as there will be in haphazard matings just as big a per cent of culls in large flocks as in small ones. When the veteran crank J. K. Felch is quoted as saying, "No more than five per cent of all Standard bred birds raised, taken as a whole, are really top or exhibition specimens," it is time for the mass of fanciers who only breed and raise one or two "way up" birds annually, to get in line and accomplish something. Rigg and Taylor have been telling you how to do it, so start now. We have in mind several prominent breeders who have bred their strains so that they (the individuals) will reproduce themselves with reasonable certainty in the hands of the amateur, and they are now reaping the results of their care and thoughtfulness. Many fanciers who have been up and down in breeding their own stock, now look to these experienced, line-breeding, poulters for stock bred in the purple, and the former ask the latter how to mate it, for they see their stumbling block.

Many of the prominent fanciers have put more brains than money into their flocks. They bought the best when they began and bred in line; and they found that breeding quality was more lucrative than quantity and that the number of culls grew less, season by season. The breeder who buys a cock this year from Peter Jones and a cockerel next year of

Timothy Strawfoot is improving his flock backwards. He'll soon find it out. Nine out of ten of this class of hen cranks fail, and then condemn line breeding and the breeders that sold them stock or eggs from same. You may mate all the \$100 birds in hencoop, and if they are not line bred the results will be a lot of culs and perchance a few "crack" specimens. But can the latter be depended upon to reproduce itself? On the other hand we see a few breeders who have bought good stock of reliable strains and who breed them according to instructions of the seller, that find profit and pleasure in so doing.

How many of the fanciers who read these rambling thoughts can go into their flocks and pick out full brothers and sisters, aunts and cousins, etc., with certainty? Or show to an intending purchaser a son of this cock and that hen, or a daughter or cousin of the same? How many have ideals they are breeding to, either in their minds or by the pen of the world famous Sewell?

Pedigreed birds and line bred birds are the same in some fanciers' flocks. Surely a line bred fowl is worth a pedigree. A pedigree does not necessarily make a really fine or meritorious specimen; a fowl should look his pedigree. When a fancier is recommended to a certain pedigree breeder for stock, he generally says, "The pedigree breeder will sell me the pedigree and throw in the bird," which is true only in a very few cases. The seller must send out good stock if he wishes to live in the fancy. News will circulate with amazing rapidity, and if one is faked the rest of the fanciers cut him out of their list of honest fanciers of whom they buy stock. "Truth will out."

The 200 egg hen has been made possible by the use of trap nests and line breeding. We chance to know a fancier who keeps a record of his best layers; he is a crank on egg production. His records are something like this—

Cockerel Onward, head of pen A—Sire Oneita 194 by Onward I. Dam. Betsy 182 out of Betsy 181.

Pullets in pen A—Yora 1, Manda 2, Sapphire 3, Betsy 4, all full sisters out of Betsy 196 by Gondo 11, out of Miss Wells 190.

The owner of these layers knows which pullets in this pen of four laid the most eggs and which of them laid fertile eggs and the one that laid the eggs that hatched the most rapid growing chicks. To say that this fancier is hot on the trail of the 225 egg hen is just penning a fact. He will undoubtedly accomplish his purpose. He says he will introduce no new blood unless the pullet through which he makes the infusion can and does lay 200 eggs in 365 days. He can go into his flock and pick out the sires and dams of his best with accuracy. He knows what he is doing and has opened the eyes of many a fancier who visits him.

Would it not pay a broiler man to know what hens and pullets laid fertile eggs, and the most of them, and then originate a strain of his own by line breeding that would pay him for his trouble? After carefully reading articles from prominent breeders and fanciers we see no reason why the mass of unsuccessful hen cranks do not start at once and improve their methods and chances of building up a paying business. Some one must take up the work when our best and foremost breeders drop out of the ranks or fall in front of Father Time. Let us be up and doing and help the fancy by breeding our fowls to the high-

est degree of perfection, thus preparing ourselves to take up the work where the veterans leave it.—*Western Poultry News.*

Desirability of Type in Breeding.

The ambitious fancier should be a student of the American Standard of Perfection. He should familiarize himself with the ideal type of his favorite variety. The highest success of both fancier and utility breeder is achieved by adherence to typical conditions. Any radical departure from the pronounced type produces one of two results, either the building up of a new variety, or, more commonly, the gradual degeneration of the flock into a family of mongrels. Among the writer's amusing childhood memories is that of the management of breeding operations by his parents, who, like many of the last generation, knew little of standard poultry. In their desire for a uniform flock of hens for utility purposes they successively tried Buff Cochins, Barred Plymouth Rocks and S. C. B. Leghorns. When selecting cockerels for next season's breeding they invariably preserved those with double or rose combs because of their superior ability to endure the atmosphere surrounding the apple boughs or dashboard in winter. Was the complaint surprising that "our flock of chickens always runs out within two or three years" under the double pressure of careless inbreeding and the radical violation of typical characteristics in the male?

It may be remarked that some requirements of the Standard are changed at the time of its periodic revision. True, but doubtless the most radical changes are found in the modification of some fancy points, interesting to the fancier, but little affecting the utility breeder. The table of disqualifications is seldom altered. Unless strong counter-reasons exist, we are safer in discarding all disqualified breeders and those whose symmetry constitutes a radical defect. We once had in a flock of American birds a handsome Light Brahma hen which had accidentally come into our possession. A neighbor often remarked his liking for her "if she only lacked the leg and toe feathering, which he abominated." Our reply was that such a lack would so detract from the Brahma type as to create a suspicion of some other defect of the true Asiatic. Such a bird would be a misfit, and only a little less risky for breeding purposes than a Morgan horse weighing a ton or a Clydesdale of less than half weight.

The Standard is not so severely inflexible as to fetter the individuality of the breeder. The writer once ordered birds of an American variety of each of two reliable breeders of national fame. No complaint was made concerning either lot. None were discovered to be disqualified, but a difference in style existed. This was doubtless caused by continuous breeding toward some ideals in the minds of the respective breeders. One could almost imagine a possible modification by the introduction of a slight amount of Brahma blood in one lot and of Leghorn blood in the other—an argument in favor of a beginner's adherence to a single strain until he ceases to be a novice.

Type is not alone secured by the proper selection of breeding stock. Many a chick possessing the natural right to typical development has failed because of neglectful rearing. A chick, as well as a child, has a natural right to be properly raised. Type consists in both

shape and size, neither of which can be perfected on insufficient or improper food. Is it not possible that part of that we see in poultry publications against fowls of more than standard weight is caused by inability or unwillingness to properly care for chicks? Pardon a personal reference. Last season, partly to keep our chicks (White Wyandottes) at home, and partly to hasten maturity and consequent egg production, we fed freely and with care. We now have no reason to believe such a course modified the rapidity of their growth so much as it did their size and style. They consumed the ordinary length of time in growing, but the growth was extraordinary. They must now weigh from one to two pounds each above their parental stock. We are now repeating the experiment, and have a flock of handsome, vigorous youngsters, while those from eggs supplied to neighbors who "think they are treating them well enough for chickens" present a sorry appearance. We are heartily ashamed of them.—*American Poultry Advocate.*

Selecting Birds For Showing.

It is time to begin to think about the shows of the coming winter. The breeder who does not show loses an opportunity to let the public know he has standard stock, and to give possible customers an opportunity to see for themselves what he is capable of doing as a breeder. It would be much better for the buying public if it were possible to have all exhibits bred by the exhibitor, but this is not possible and the exhibitor who buys and wins gives the public good reason to have confidence in the quality of his breeding stock and shows that eggs from his yards will come from high-class birds.

It isn't a matter of a day to put birds in shape for the show room. The selection should begin long before the time of the shows, and the best specimens should be taken away from the main flock and put by themselves where they can have every chance to show what is in them in the way of growth. They should be fed liberally, but not so liberally as to make them overfat. They should be kept in absolutely clean quarters and if they are of the breeds that are inclined to become brassy, should be kept out of the hot sunshine. Their shanks should be carefully oiled and frequently cleaned and polished with a soft rag which has been dipped in sweet oil. The comb and face may be oiled occasionally and frequently cleaned so as to maintain that healthy, bright red color that is so attractive. Every day or two every bird should be carefully gone over and broken feathers plucked out in order to allow new ones to grow in and show up in perfect form when the judge gets them. This constant handling soon teaches the birds that they are not going to be harmed and they get so they like it and often this counts for considerable in the appearance they make in the show room, for, being without fear, they stand in their natural positions and are not cut so much for typical carriage. A week or two before the first show put them into cages of the regulation size for a good part of each day to familiarize them with the close confinement. Attend to these matters and your chances for high scores will be very much improved, for it is very certain that appearance counts for a great deal in almost any place and in the show room it is important that a bird that must pass the close inspection of critical experts

should be prepared in such a manner that it will show up in the best possible manner. The bird that appears in the show room properly groomed is living evidence of a careful owner, and such birds recommend their owners to those who come to admire, learn or purchase stock.—*Commercial Poultry*.

The Poultry Crop of 1901.

The indications of the poultry crop are presented in the fifth annual report of the Sprague Commission Co. of Chicago. The conclusions arrived at and given below were compiled from inquiries sent throughout Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and the Dakotas, making the most complete and comprehensive report ever attempted by any commission house. It is a reliable and unbiased opinion. We have no interest in the market in giving this information other than commission merchants, and have no object in misrepresenting the conditions.

The reports received this year from our numerous correspondents indicate a material decrease in the supply of ducks and geese, a rather liberal supply of chickens, but no larger than last year, and a smaller crop of turkeys. Weather conditions have been of such a variable and unseasonable character as to have had a very important effect on the production of poultry in its various stages of growth. In the first place the cold and unusually late and wet spring worked very unfavorably against the early hatches. This was particularly the case with turkeys, many of the young birds dying from cold and wet, and their growth was greatly retarded from the same causes. Then came the excessively hot weather during July, the hottest experienced for years, with the thermometer ranging continuously for weeks from 100 to 110 at different points, and pretty much all over the country. The fertility of the eggs was affected, and many hatchings did not bring out half a brood during this period, but the later hatchings met with better success, and the early failures induced farmers to put out a larger quantity and thus in the case of chickens particularly the early losses were made up. But the very hot weather and absence of rain, especially in the West and Southwest, had a decided effect on the crop of ducks and geese. Water is an important factor in the raising of the web-footed fowls, and ducks and geese suffered seriously. The creeks and ponds dried up, and in many places there was no water to be had, and besides the losses in dead stock, a great deal was shipped to market during the summer and much earlier than usual, and these facts create the belief that the coming supply for winter will be smaller than for several years.

As a result of the drought, the corn crop is not much over half that of last year, and this induced farmers to sell off a considerable portion of their stock earlier than usual.

Turkeys—The crop of turkeys, it is estimated, will be fully 15 per cent short of last year, or about 85 per cent of a full crop. Last year was considered about a full crop. The crop is about the same as during the year 1899, possibly a little larger. Our reports in nearly all instances claim the turkeys are much poorer than usual this year, and the scarcity of feed, it is argued, will bring in a large quantity of turkeys around Thanksgiving

of a poorer quality than last year. Christmas turkeys are likely to bring good prices.

Chickens—The majority of our reports indicate an increased crop, some of the correspondents in their sections giving as much as 25 per cent increase, while a fair proportion gives less than last year. It probably would be fair to place the crop this year at about 95 as compared with last year. The early hatchings were smaller than in former years, but the later settings made up for a good share of the shortage, and while we estimate the crop a little short of last year, it might develop that the crop may by late hatchings be larger than last year. Old chickens have been marketed rather freely, and may have been sold off more closely than in former years on account of the drouth scare.

Ducks—Everything points to a smaller crop of ducks, if our correspondents can be relied upon. From the estimates given it would be fair to place the crop fully 10 per cent short of last year. Last year the crop was fully 20 per cent less than the year 1898, but as the crop that year was way above an average crop, we are justified in saying that the production this year will not be much below an average crop. Prices realized have not been giving much encouragement to farmers to raise ducks. They seem to have been marketed freely on account of the anticipated scarcity of feed and the short water supply.

Geese—Another shrinkage in the crop is indicated by this year's reports of about 10 to 15 per cent as compared with last year, making a showing of about 70, against 80 last year, or some 30 per cent less than the crop of 1898, which was considered a full crop.

No Breed the Best.

Has not some one the 365-eggs-a-year strain yet? Back in the seventies, or may be longer, a test in England proved the S. S. Hamburg to have laid the largest number of eggs in a year; the number I have forgotten, but since then others have proved (in their own way) that the Leghorn was superior. Later on, others have proved that the Minorca was still a better layer, and the Rock crank stands ready to jump the party who says that the Rock is not the best all-around breed. Yet, in the face of all this, the Brahma man has the nerve to claim superiority for his noble breed; still he must take a back seat and give way to Orpingtons, Klondikes, Faverolles, etc. Now the latest heard of is a man who has tried quite a number of the most important ones, has discarded one by one, and finally settled on the Silver Wyandotte, the King of all. Taking all in all, from the Hamburg test to the late Wyandotte, I should judge we must be nearing the 365-egg-a-year strain (or probably more).

We all have hobbies, and we all like to ride them, but we should be more careful how we try to impress upon the minds of others that one certain breed lays over the deck of them all. It is often misleading to beginners. My experience has taught me that no one breed is the best; one time one would do better than the other. I have had Black Red Games to outlay Hamburgs, Leghorns and Minorcas; another year, the Hamburg was king; and so it goes, it isn't the chicken, it is the man or woman and what they make it. I have bred the Hamburgs since 1885, and can, by reason, make more from them than from any other

breed. Why? Because they are my favorites, my hobby, and when one has something he likes, he will naturally push it for all it is worth. So what we like best we push most; what we push most makes the fattest partition in our pocket-books. My advice to beginners would be, attend some large show, make a choice of the variety you like best, get some good stock or eggs, and make a start with nothing but the best. It matters not what the breed may be, if you like it, stick to it, give it all the attention you can afford, never let up, and never be satisfied until you are up with the best, and I'll bet a dollar against a dung-hill fowl you will have the best breed on earth, also, no matter what others say or do.—*Poultry Monthly*.

Pure Bred Fowls for Market.

The first and most important thing towards making a success in market poultry is the judicious selection of a breed for the purpose intended. The kind of fowls that give the best results as egg producers will not prove satisfactory for market, and the handling required by them is different from that of the variety intended for market. And for marketing pure bred fowls are so far superior to mongrel stock that no one who enters the business with a view of making the best of it, should for a moment entertain the idea of using mongrels or mixed varieties, for if the owner has a mixed lot of poultry there is no possibility of securing uniformity in quality or appearance, and in feeding a mixed lot of fowls their individual wants are not apt to be properly supplied. They will be different in shape, weight, degree of plumpness and color of legs and skin to such an extent that when placed on the market they will prove anything but tempting to the intelligent buyer. They are most sure to find only a slow sale and at prices that will not be encouraging to the producer.

But, if good variety of pure bred fowls has been secured and the owner has made himself thoroughly familiar with the characteristics and requirements of that particular breed, it will be found that the same general treatment and way of feeding will be equally adapted to each individual in the flock. When the owner goes to market these fowls he will be able to tell the buyer just what he may expect as to quality and appearance, and when delivered they are found to be uniform in size, shape and color, and are sure to attract the attention of a class of buyers who are willing to pay for a good thing when they see it and the result is quick sale at top prices and good satisfaction to producer, dealer and consumer.—*American Poultry Advocate*.

At least ten different kinds of poultry parasites are known to exist in our land, that prey upon fowls, young and old. Seven of the varieties are wingless insects, while the remaining three properly belong to the same class as spiders. Hen lice have biting mouth parts with which they feed upon the feather or scurf from the skin of their victims, while the "mites" have long, sharp mouths with which they pierce the skin and suck out the blood.

Mash feed in the morning should only be enough to partially satisfy the appetite; at night feeding, fowls should have all they can eat.

Feed your fowls systematically and regularly.

Black Langshans.

The Black Langshan is a well known and quite popular fowl. There is an immense demand for them right along. The American breeds of fowls are very popular and still becoming more so. Yet it is a question whether any breed will far surpass the Black Langshans. The White Langshan is similar to the Black and no doubt just as profitable but as I have had experience only with the Black ones I will speak of them alone. Now in the first place let me say that to get a profit from any breed of fowls we must know how to care for each breed. No two breeds require the same care. It is a question as to whether or not one breed is more profitable than another if each is managed according to its needs, when one breeder gets his claim over one breed being more profitable than another, it is that he knows better how to manage a certain breed or that surroundings and circumstances give greater facility for a certain favorite breed.

So speaking of the Langshan I may say that your preference to this breed will alone give you success. If you, from a matter of taste, prefer some other breed you will no doubt get a better profit from that other breed.

But if you want a handsome fowl you will not turn away from the Black Langshan. See them as they move around, stylish, graceful, active, and peaceful. You would naturally expect to find them somewhat lazy and sluggish as they are of Asiatic class. But not so. They can be active and they are so. You don't see a Langshan moving around lazy and sluggish unless you feed them too much and make them so fat that they can't move around. Now you can make a Langshan too fat while it is almost impossible to feed a bird of the Mediterranean so as to get them too fat. Hence you need to know how to manage each breed.

No more beautiful fowl can be found as their brilliant glossy black plumage is the richest color obtainable, a solid color fowl and one that has been bred true to color for so many years is very easy to breed to color as the Standard requires.

Another point in their favor is their great laying qualities. Some say that they even excel the Leghorns. At least they will give the Leghorns a hot race if managed properly. So combining this laying quality with their large size makes a very valuable fowl.

Their meat is first class grained and always fine for eating. Some reject the Langshans on account of their white skin instead of yellow as so much desired. Although their skin, being white, is not so nice looking it does not make flesh any poorer. None ever ate any better fowl than the delicious Langshan. They mature early although perhaps not so quick as the smaller breeds yet when they do mature there is a fowl and not a little bird.

If pets are wanted and some that are intelligent you will make no mistake in choosing this fowl. They make excellent mothers, always taking good care of the chickens. They bear confinement well and thus make good fowls for living in towns.

In fact the Langshan is an ideal fowl and deserves a place second to none among the list of breeds and varieties. Give them proper care, make them work for their feed, keep them warm and you will be pleased with results.—*Practical Poultryman.*

Rhode Island School of Poultry-Keeping.

Beginning January 8 and continuing until February 19, 1902, the Rhode Island College of Agriculture will conduct a course in poultry-keeping. This course is very complete and the students who have taken it since it was first inaugurated a few years ago have been greatly benefited and a number of them are making fame as poultry-breeders.

This course is designed to give instruction in the arts and sciences underlying successful poultry-keeping; also the latest and best in practice and management as given by the most successful specialists in the various lines of work. The students are thus enabled to gain a large amount of practical knowledge as well as theory, for they come in direct personal contact with such men as I. K. Felch and many others ranking high in the poultry world.

The course embraces work in the following subjects: Zoology, anatomy, physiology and embryology, sufficient for a foundation for the course; fowls, origin, kinds and breeds, principles of breeding, mating, care and management; special breeding of water-fowl, turkeys, etc.; incubation and brooding, natural and artificial (actual practice); foods, chemistry of, feeding; egg and flesh production; caponizing, fattening, killing, dressing, and marketing; diseases, prevention and cure; poultry-plants, location, drainage, building, planning and drawing plans, specifications, estimates, and construction; ventilation and heating; records and accounts; bees as a side issue with poultry; crops raised in conjunction with, also for, poultry.

Excursions will be made to various poultry-plants for observation and study of plans and practical management. No pains will be spared to render all possible return to the student for the time and effort spent in the course.

Application for enrollment should be made at once, as the number must necessarily be limited. Address J. A. Tillinghast, Kingston, R. I.

Encourage the Boys.

If one of the boys on the farm takes kindly to the care of poultry, encourage his ambition by getting him some pure bred poultry, says the Baltimore Sun. Many a successful man owes his start in life to the ownership and management of something he "took a notion to" in his boyhood days.

A. C. Hawkins of Lancaster, Mass., has recently made several shipments of Barred Rocks and White Wyandottes to Australia, New Zealand and Sweden. Mr. Hawkins has a world-wide reputation for fine poultry.

Industry in the poultry yard is the true basis of the poultry industry.

To make cows pay, use Sharples Cream Separators. Book "Business Dairying" and Catalogue 245 free. W. Chester, Pa.

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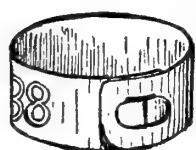
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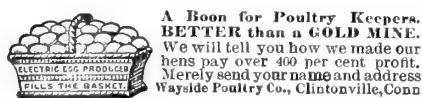


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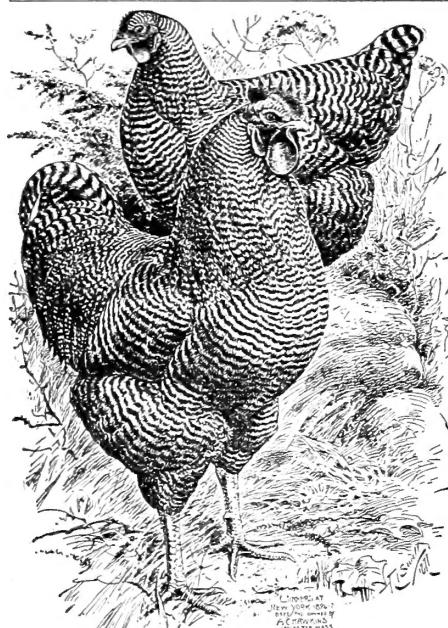
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